



UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE
United States Patent and Trademark Office
Address: COMMISSIONER FOR PATENTS
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, Virginia 22313-1450
www.uspto.gov

APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
10/019,888	04/18/2002	Milan Prokin	102320-102	6201
27267	7590	11/01/2004	EXAMINER	
WIGGIN AND DANA LLP ATTENTION: PATENT DOCKETING ONE CENTURY TOWER, P.O. BOX 1832 NEW HAVEN, CT 06508-1832			NGUYEN, KHANH V	
			ART UNIT	PAPER NUMBER
			2817	

DATE MAILED: 11/01/2004

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

<p align="center">Office Action Summary</p>	Application No. 10/019,888	Applicant(s) PROKIN ET AL.	
	Examiner Khanh V. Nguyen	Art Unit 2817	

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If the period for reply specified above is less than thirty (30) days, a reply within the statutory minimum of thirty (30) days will be considered timely.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

- 1) ☒ Responsive to communication(s) filed on 20 August 2004.
- 2a) ☐ This action is **FINAL**. 2b) ☒ This action is non-final.
- 3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

- 4) ☒ Claim(s) 1-113 is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above claim(s) _____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are allowed.
- 6) ☒ Claim(s) 33-37, 52-62, 91-97, 112 and 113 is/are rejected.
- 7) ☒ Claim(s) 38-51, 63-90 and 98-111 is/are objected to.
- 8) ☐ Claim(s) _____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

- 9) ☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) ☐ The drawing(s) filed on _____ is/are: a) ☐ accepted or b) ☐ objected to by the Examiner.
 Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).
 Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).
- 11) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

- 12) ☒ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) ☒ All b) ☐ Some * c) ☐ None of:
1. ☒ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

* See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

Attachment(s)

- | | |
|--|---|
| 1) <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Notice of References Cited (PTO-892) | 4) <input type="checkbox"/> Interview Summary (PTO-413)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date. _____ |
| 2) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948) | 5) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152) |
| 3) <input type="checkbox"/> Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO-1449 or PTO/SB/08)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date _____ | 6) <input type="checkbox"/> Other: _____ |

DETAILED ACTION

Claim Objections

Claims 33, 54, 93 are objected to because of the following informalities:

Claim 33, line 1, replaced "The" with --A--.

Claim 54, line 1, replaced "The" with --A--.

Claim 93, line 1, replaced "The" with --A--.

Appropriate correction is required.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 102

The following is a quotation of the appropriate paragraphs of 35 U.S.C. 102 that form the basis for the rejections under this section made in this Office action:

A person shall be entitled to a patent unless –

(e) the invention was described in (1) an application for patent, published under section 122(b), by another filed in the United States before the invention by the applicant for patent or (2) a patent granted on an application for patent by another filed in the United States before the invention by the applicant for patent, except that an international application filed under the treaty defined in section 351(a) shall have the effects for purposes of this subsection of an application filed in the United States only if the international application designated the United States and was published under Article 21(2) of such treaty in the English language.

Claims 33-37, 93-97 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(e) as being anticipated by Maehara et al. (6,075,715).

Regarding claims 33-35, 93-95, Maehara et al. (Fig. 30) disclose an electrical circuit comprising: a power source (1); elements (C3, La, T1) can be broadly reads as a load; a switching bridge (Q1, Q2); a bridge capacitor (C1), diodes (D1, D2), wherein the connections between these elements are inherently disclosed.

Regarding claims 36, 37, 96, 97, wherein switches are bipolar transistors.

Art Unit: 2817

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 103

The following is a quotation of 35 U.S.C. 103(a) which forms the basis for all obviousness rejections set forth in this Office action:

(a) A patent may not be obtained though the invention is not identically disclosed or described as set forth in section 102 of this title, if the differences between the subject matter sought to be patented and the prior art are such that the subject matter as a whole would have been obvious at the time the invention was made to a person having ordinary skill in the art to which said subject matter pertains. Patentability shall not be negated by the manner in which the invention was made.

Claims 52-62, 91, 92, 112, 113 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Maehara et al.

Regarding claims 52, 53, 91, 92, 112, 113, Maehara et al. disclose the claimed invention except the specific load as claimed. However, such as load would have been considered a matter of design choice in the absence of unexpected results if not an intended use of the invention, wherein Maehara et al. disclose a specific load as discharge lamp.

Regarding claims 54-56, 58, 59, Maehara et al. disclose the claimed invention an output filter having the connection thereof. Maehara et al. (Fig. 30) disclose a electrical circuit comprising: a power source (1); a load (C3, La, T1); a switching bridge (Q1, Q2); a bridge capacitor (C1); a filtering capacitor (C4); diodes (D1, D2), wherein the connections between these elements are inherently disclosed. However, it is known in the art that addition of a known type filter will only enhance circuit operation, such as filtering out noise or improving output signal. As such, adding a filter to a circuit would have been considered a matter of design choice/engineering.

Regarding claims 57, 60-62, wherein switches are bipolar transistors.

Allowable Subject Matter

Claims 38-51, 55-90 are objected to as being dependent upon a rejected base claim, but would be allowable if rewritten in independent form including all of the limitations of the base claim and any intervening claims.

Reasons for Allowance

The following is an examiner's statement of reasons for allowance:

Claims 38-51, 63-90, 98-111 are allowed over the prior art because none of the prior art disclosed or suggested showing the particular structure and/or operation recited in these claims namely:

Claims 38-51, 63-90, 98-111 call for, among others, a second phase of load (5), third and fourth switches, third and fourth diodes having the connection as claimed.

Any comments considered necessary by applicant must be submitted no later than the payment of the issue fee and, to avoid processing delays, should preferably accompany the issue fee. Such submissions should be clearly labeled "Comments on Statement of Reasons for Allowance."

Conclusion

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Khanh V. Nguyen whose telephone number is (703) 306-9058. The examiner can normally be reached from 8:00 AM-4:00 PM.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Robert Pascal can be reached on (703) 308-4909. The fax phone numbers

Art Unit: 2817

for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned are (703) 872-9318 for regular communications and (703) 872-9319 for After Final communications.

Any inquiry of a general nature or relating to the status of this application or proceeding should be directed to the Customer Service at (703) 872-9317.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Khanh V. Nguyen', written over a horizontal line.

**KHANH V. NGUYEN
PRIMARY EXAMINER**